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Coordination of United Nations activities related to geospatial information management

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report and background papers on the coordination of United Nations activities in geospatial information management prepared jointly by the Secretariat, the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. The report is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and background papers and to express its views on the ways in which the United Nations geospatial information community can better support stakeholders and on how the expertise of the geographical naming community can better contribute to the activities of the Committee.

Summary of the report

At its fourth session, held in New York from 6 to 8 August 2014, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 4/112, in which it expressed its appreciation to the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names for their contributions to the coordination of United Nations activities related to geospatial information. The Committee of Experts stressed the need for continued coordination and the clarification of the roles and responsibilities of geospatial information activities within and outside the United Nations system by the members of Working Group; welcomed the coordination efforts of the Working Group aimed at avoiding

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fragmentation and at using the scarce resources of the United Nations system effectively; encouraged the Working Group to intensify those efforts, also taking into account the regional dimension, and to work closely with the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management secretariat in that regard; and invited the Working Group to report to the Committee at its next session.

In response to the request of the Committee of Experts, the report and background papers describe the activities carried out by the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group , the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs to intensify closer coordination within the United Nations geospatial information community.